

**BINGHAMTON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2013**

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES MEETING MINUTES 5/21/13

Present:

Deb Andreko
Scott Hancock
Don Bergin
Merry Harris
Omar Sanders

1. Review of Green Jobs NY NYSERDA

Discussion of the promotion of the Green Jobs NY program ensued. It was noted that our program currently has \$120,000 available which expires in March 2014. (This amount is comprised of \$60,000 each from the USDA & BLDC) Ms. Harris informed the committee that there are currently two businesses in the city which are BPI certified contractors.

2. The Committee discussed the present NYSERDA program that supports energy efficiency projects and the advantages of expansion of the BLDC Green Jobs program to include a 50/50 participation program with NYSERDA at a low interest rate.

Mr. Saunders proposed a loan program be established that will offer financing Green Job programs to qualified businesses that incorporates the use of NYSERDA in a Participation Loan, whereby BLDC retains 50% of the lending exposure, NYSERDA assumes 50% of the loan and BLDC retains the administration function. Benefits of the proposed loan program would include the following:

a. Increased public exposure gained by NYSERDA marketing and outreach to eligible area businesses.

b. The program would serve as a conduit to expanding BPI certified contractors in the area – this is important, since it is required.

c. This product would solidify the need for the program. Entering into the participation with NYSERDA will allow the BLDC to increase the actual amount of the funding available, potentially expanding the number of projects completed in the City.

The Committee agreed that the Mr. Sanders should explore establishing the loan program criteria, first obtaining authorization for the proposed participation loan program with the USDA. Assuming the USDA is in agreement Mr. Sanders will develop the criteria of the program for review by the committee in two weeks.

3. Ten applications were submitted for the Main Street Grant. Of the ten, eight applications [were complete](#) and two were incomplete. The committee recommends that the two application fees be returned in full. The remaining applications will be submitted for review by the BLDC Loan Committee.